

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

At pages 11-12, please delete paragraph [0032] and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0032] To improve adherence of TBC 22 to bond coat layer 18, it can be desirable to include an underlying a zirconia-containing layer that is stabilized in the tetragonal crystalline phase. This underlying layer for improving the adherence of TBC 22 to bond coat layer 18 comprises: (1) at least about 80 mole % zirconia; and (2) a stabilizing amount up to about 10 mole % of a stabilizer component. This stabilizer component comprises: (a) a first metal oxide selected from the group consisting of yttria, calcia, ceria, scandia, magnesia, india and mixtures thereof in an amount of from about 1.5 to about 10 mole %; and (b) optionally a second metal oxide selected from the group consisting of lanthana, neodymia, ytterbia and mixtures thereof in an amount of from about 0.5 to about 8.5 mole %. This underlying layer can also optionally comprise: (c) hafnia in an amount of from about 0.5 to about 15 mole %; and/or (d) tantala in an amount from about 0.5 to about 1.5 mole %. Particularly suitable ceramic composition for preparing this underlying layer are disclosed in copending U.S. nonprovisional application entitled "THERMAL BARRIER COATINGS HAVING LOWER LAYER FOR IMPROVED ADHERENCE TO BOND COAT" (Darolia et al), Serial No. 10/748,519, filed December 30, 2003, 2003, which is incorporated by reference.